

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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AIR POUCH

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~~RYBAT/PESUCCESS/SECRET~~

19 MAY 1954

LINCOLN [ ]

KURONE/SUMMIT  
Guatemalan Delegation

1. [ ] Luis Coronado Lira should play the leading role among the Guatemalan delegates at SUMMIT because he is the best speaker and most experienced politician among those whom we expect to participate. Moreover, he has received considerable personal publicity, first, in connection with his activities around the Caracas conference, second, on his present trip to South America.

3. Coronado Lira is to deliver the speech on "Soviet Intervention in Guatemala", provided for in the agenda of SUMMIT. [ ]

a) [ ] emphasize the foreign, international character of communism in Guatemala, proven by the training given the PGT leaders in Moscow and elsewhere behind the Iron Curtain, by the Soviet arms furnished to Guatemala, by the assembly of communist fugitives from a dozen different countries in Guatemala, etc. All this constitutes already foreign - i.e., Soviet - intervention in Guatemala, even though the communists and their allies talk about "foreign intervention", meaning either the United States or their neighbors in Central America.

b) Overwhelmed by this onslaught of international communism, the people of Guatemala, unprepared for such totalitarian assault, ask for the help of their friends and neighbors throughout Latin America - especially since Guatemala is obviously becoming Hq of communist

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subversion and aggression throughout the Western Hemisphere. But this help, both material and moral, must never degenerate into foreign military intervention: the liberation of Guatemala must be the work of the people of Guatemala itself!

c) [ ] warn the people in Guatemala as well as elsewhere in Latin America that communism is unsheathing its fangs only gradually:

today, the Army is still being flattered - tomorrow it will come under the harsh rule of Soviet military instructors and political commissars;

today, the peasants receive land - tomorrow it will be taken away from them again and they will be herded into collective farms, as it was done in Russia and every other communist country;

today, the workers are encouraged to demand higher wages, shorter hours from the capitalists: tomorrow, they will have to work much harder, much longer hours and for far lower wages as slaves of an omnipotent police state;

today, the communists avoid a head-on clash with the Church: tomorrow, after the communists feel strong enough in the saddle, they will suppress and persecute the Church, expel it from the schools, close monasteries and set up the rule of atheism, as they have done wherever they have come to power.

4. The effect of Coronado Lira's speech might be heightened if a delegate just arrived from Guatemala itself would add a brief "first hand, up-to-date" report of conditions in Guatemala. Coronado Lira [ ]

will have to decide whether this can be done without exposing that delegate too blatantly to reprisals upon his return to Guatemala. If they decide against it, the delegate in question might deliver his speech either:

- a) Covered with a hood to mask his identity; or
- b) Speaking into a microphone outside the meeting hall, linked with a public address system inside; or
- c) Recording the speech beforehand and have it played before the congress.

In each case, the reasons for these extraordinary precautions ought to be properly stressed.

5. The resolution condemning Guatemala as beachhead and advance base of international communism in the Americas and asking hemi-wide assistance for the people in Guatemala should be prepared [ 1

[ ] but should preferably be offered to the congress by a delegate from elsewhere. You will judge who can discharge this task most effectively. This resolution might characterize the situation approximately along the lines of paragraph 3 above, leading up to the following specific points:

a) The Congress will form a hemisphere-wide Committee for the Liberation of Guatemala (or, if you prefer "Committee against Soviet Intervention in Guatemala");

b) Appeal to all freedom-loving people throughout the hemisphere to recognize the threat of communism in Guatemala and to expose communist activities reaching from Guatemala into their respective countries (Guatemalan embassies as carriers of communist propaganda; "Societies of Friends of Guatemala", etc.) as well as their "domestic" communists;

c) Appeal to the people of Guatemala to rid themselves of the small band of Soviet agents who are steering their country along the road of certain disaster, driving them into a hostile position towards the freedom-loving peoples throughout the Americas. This appeal should stress that non-Communists who do not get off the communist bandwagon right now, will be condemned and punished alongside with the communist leaders themselves.

d) Stressing the need to support the struggle of the people of Guatemala for liberation from the outside, both materially and morally, appealing specifically to Catholics, non-Communist labor unions, farmers' organizations etc. throughout Latin America (see paragraph 3-b above).

e) Asking press, radio, etc. for their support through exposing the communist threat in Guatemala and its international ramifications.

6. The Committee for the Liberation of Guatemala, referred to in paragraph 5-a above, should be selected carefully by you beforehand. [ 1

[ ] RNSHIELD on the other hand). If direct election by SUMMIT is safe, this will give the Committee better stature. Otherwise, have RNSHIELD obtain the approval of the intended members and simply announce the formation of the Committee "from the chair". The majority of its members should be non-Guatemalans, preferably persons of sufficient stature in their respective homelands to give the activities of the Committee adequate local publicity. We suggest that there be elected:

a) A full committee, consisting of one representative from each Latin American country plus 3 - 4 Guatemalan exiles;

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b) An Executive (or Working) Committee from among those selected under (a), consisting of not more than 5 persons, including 1 or 2 Guatemalan exiles, preferably residents of Mexico or nearby countries so that this latter committee can convene more frequently without too much expense or loss of time. [

It should be explained to the members of the full committee that they will be consulted by circular letter before important steps are taken - in order to overcome whatever reluctance on their part may exist.

7. The full committee should hold its first meeting immediately after the congress ends. This meeting should be devoted primarily to the question of mobilizing moral and material support for the Guatemalans (FYI: a fund-raising campaign throughout Latin America is most urgently needed by PBSUCCESS for cover and diversionary purposes). Each member should pledge himself specifically what he can do in his homeland, for instance:

- a) Can he hold a press conference upon his return, reporting on SUMMIT and particularly on the plight of the Guatemalans?
- b) Which groups can he contact so that they will:
  - 1) Make public statements against the communist threat emanating from Guatemala,
  - 2) Hold public meetings on this and related topics,
  - 3) Contribute funds for the Committee for the Liberation of Guatemala, either from their own funds or by making a special collection among their members?
- c) Which rich and influential individuals - government officials, politicians, business men, etc. - can he contact for the same purposes?

We are primarily interested in enlisting the assistance - on the broadest possible scale - of the Catholic Church, of non-communist labor unions, farmers organizations and similar groups, of governments and government parties, etc., but we shall not reject any help, moral or material, which you consider acceptable, provided it does not come from any PBPRIME, let alone ODYOKE, source.

8. If you want to keep the resolution referred to in paragraph 5 above shorter and more general, you might have the Committee, in its first meeting as described in paragraph 7 above, adopt a separate appeal in which the

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matters concerning Guatemala are spelled out in all necessary detail. This appeal should be given all practicable publicity, should be sent to all newspaper editors throughout Latin America, etc., perhaps also be printed as a leaflet, signed with the names of all committee members.

10. Please remember that we would like to receive tape recordings of all relevant speeches at SUMMIT for broadcasting into the target area. In addition, send us at least 10 copies of all printed materials, press releases, etc. for distribution among the press and propaganda outlets within the LINCOLN area.

JEROME C. DUMBAR

18 May 1954

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